

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated April 27, 2005. Claim 1 is pending and has been rejected. Reexamination is respectfully requested in light of the amendment in the drawings and remarks.

In this amendment, outstanding claim 1 has not been amended.

Drawings

Figure 1 has been amended because the undersigned discovered what is an obvious error in the circuitry. Figure 1 as originally presented shows the first drive pulse generation (16A) connected through switches (18) and (19) to ground, which will make the first drive pulse generation ineffective to provide a drive pulse to CCD (14A). The amendment in the drawings is consistent with Applicant's description of the circuitry found at page 8, paragraph [0018]. It is respectfully submitted that this is an obvious error in the drawings, and that its correction is clearly permitted in view of correct description found in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102(b)

Applicant respectfully traverses the outstanding rejection under 35 USC § 102(b) of claim 1 as being anticipated by Nakamura '583.

The rejection as anticipated by Nakamura '583 fails to consider claim 1 when read as a whole the elements interacting and associated as claimed. '583 does not discuss the combination of a first electronic endoscope without a first drive pulse generation circuit (the first drive pulse generation circuit is in the processor unit - claim 1, lines 13 and 14), a second electronic endoscope with a second drive pulse generation circuit (claim 1, line 7) and the processor having the first drive pulse generation circuit, (claim 1, lines 10 - 11 and lines 12 - 14). This combination is not in '583 because the locations of the drive pulse generators are different.

Claim 1 recites a second electronic endoscope having a second imaging device . . . and having a second drive pulse generation circuit for generating drive pulses to drive the second imaging device. In Applicant's claim 1, this is reference to the second drive pulse generation circuit (16B) which is part of the second endoscope (10B) as shown in Figure 2.

In the outstanding Office Action at page 2, last four lines up from the bottom, the Examiner incorrectly asserts that the second imaging device (12) of Figure 2 of '583 has a drive pulse generation circuit (41). However, the circuit as shown in Figure

5 places the drive pulse generator (CCD driver B, (41)) in block 16 which is a signal processing circuit formed of a logic cell which is one type of field programmable gate array (see column 4, line 5 - 7). The synchronization signal generating circuit and driver (41) are, therefore, part of block (16) which are not part of the endoscope.

As taught by '583, there are endoscopes A (reference number 1) and B (reference number 2) as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. The only circuitry contained in the endoscopes is a data ROM (reference numerals 19 and 20), a resistor array (reference numerals 54 and 55), or memory cards (64), (65) which are independent of the endoscope (see column 7, lines 58 - 62). The endoscopes shown in '583 do not include the claimed second drive pulse generation circuit as claimed by Applicant and as shown in Applicant's drawings. For this reason, the rejection under 35 USC § 102 is respectfully traversed. The Examiner should note also that in Applicant's previously filed amendment, the copy of claim 1 with reference numerals clearly identifies the second drive pulse generation circuit as (16B).

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and early action in accordance thereof is requested. In the event there is any reason why the application cannot be allowed in this current condition, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact

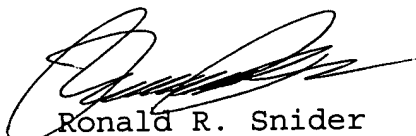
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the undersigned at the number listed below to resolve any problems by Interview or Examiner's Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: July 11, 2005

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RRS/bam

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet(s) of drawings includes changes to Figure 1. This sheet, which includes Figure 1, replaces the original sheet including Figures 1.

In Figure 1, the first drive pulse generation (16A) is not longer connected through switch 19 to ground.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

FIG. 1

